

R E M A R K S

This is in response to the Office Action of January 9, 2007. New claim 10 is added, based upon the Examples. No new subject matter is introduced into the application by this Amendment. Claims 1-10 are pending in the application.

Restriction was required between: (I.) claims 1-6 and 9; and (II.) claims 7 and 8. Applicants elect the invention identified by the Examiner as Group (I.). The requirement for restriction is traversed on the grounds that the two inventions in question are closely related, and that the invention of Group (II.) could be examiner along with the invention of Group (I.) without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the requirement for restriction and rejoinder of claims 7 and 8 are respectfully solicited.

In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicants elect the species of Example 1. Claims 1-10 read on the elected species.

If there are any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Richard Gallagher, Registration No. 28,781, at (703) 205-8008.

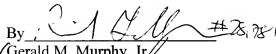
- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 5, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:

 #28,977
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.
Registration No.: 28,977

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant